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- 1. On 4 and 5 March 1954, a conference convened was held in Leipzig. Chairman was Dr Panning of the Main Department at the Zentralamt fuer Forschung und Technik (Conference which was attended by 20 members of the German Academy of Sciences in East Berlin was to discuss futi25X1 research work and the form of activity reports for 1953.
- 2. Prior to March 1954, the ZAFT employed only 20 scientists who were qualified to direct scientific research work. Since this number was inadequate it was proposed to the State Planning Commission that 20 different study groups of 5 experts each were to be formed and that expert teams of up to 10 men were to be subordinate to these study groups. The study groups were to submit to the State Planning Commission proposals for large-scale planning and prospective production figures on the basis of resolutions taken at conferences held every three months.
- 3. As far as became known the following study groups were formed prior to June 1954: Study group for acids, salts and industrial heavy chemistry, chairman: Dr Hans Ehlers, Chief of the Inorganic Department of VEB Elektrochemisches Kombinat (EKB) at Pitterfeld; Deputy Chairman: Dr Erik Reissmann, Chief of the Inorganic Department of VEB Farbenfabrik (dye stuff plant) at Wolfen; secretary: Dr Heinz Woempner of EKB; Deputy secretary: Dr Linstroem (fnu), Technical Chief of the Main Administration for Heavy Chemistry; assistants: Dr Hoppe (fnu) of the HV Kali und Nichterzbergbau (Main Administration for Potash and Non-Ore Mines), and Dipl. chem. Hans Aube, Chief of the Department for Inorganic and Silicon Chemistry at ZAFT. Study group for sulfuric acid. Experts belonging to this study group included Dr Hoemmen (fnu) and Dr Robert Griesbach of VEB Farbenfabrik Wolfen. Study group for aluminum: Experts belonging to this study group included Dr Heinke (fmu), production chief of HV Schwerchemie, and Dr Holst (fmu) of the EKB. Study group for magnesium oxide: Dr Wehner (fnu) of EKB. Study group for soda and alkaline salts: Dr Alfred Baumbach, chief of the Main Department I at ZAFT. Study group for chemical fertilizers. Chairman is Dr Wilfrot (fnu) of the VEB "Walter Ulbricht" Leuna Werke; deputy chairman Dr Ernst Bergener, chief engineer of VEB Kaliwerk Kaiserroda; secretary: Dr Bartleb (fmu) of the Leuna Werke. Study group for nitrogen. Chairman: Dr Tillenberg (fnu). Study group of phosphorus. Chairman: Dr. Stehn (fnu).

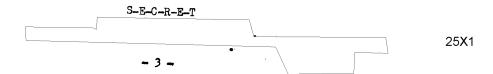
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Study group for heavy chemistry. Chairman: Dr Toepelmann (fnu).
Study group for potash and non-ore mining. Chairman: Dr Slaue (fnu).
Other experts assigned to various undetermined study groups included:
Dr Franz Busch of the Kaliwerke Kaiserroda,
Dr Sevory (fnu) of the Institute for Research Work on Mineral Salts,
Dr Hans Albert Lehmann of the Chemical Institute of the Humboldt University in Fast
Berlin,
Prof Dr Arthur Simon of the Dresden Institute of Technology,
Prof Dr Herbert Staude, chief of the Physical - Chemical Institute of Leipzig
University.

- During the second part of the Leipzig conference, reports on research work conducted in 1953 were given. Dr Robert Griesbach of VEB Farbenfabrik at Wolfen spoke on the improvement of methods of producing sulfuric acid from gypsum. The production of cement from desulfurized materials was also treated in this report. A rotary kiln 6.5 meters long was used for the technical experiments and the main raw material was gypsum (CaSO<sub>4</sub>.2H<sub>2</sub>O) or anhydride (CaSO<sub>4</sub>). The utilization of small coke lignite proved unfavorable because of the nitrous gases developing in this case produced turbidity in the sulfuric acid obtained and led to the development of amidosulfuric acid (H<sub>2</sub>N.SO<sub>3</sub>H). In order to remove the NO gases, the sulfate gases (schwefelsaure Gase) were washed in a solution of sodium thiosulfate (Na<sub>2</sub>S<sub>2</sub>O<sub>3</sub>.5H<sub>2</sub>O). In order to produce cement klinker through the burning of calcium sulfate, clay, sand and iron waste were added to the gypsum. The temperature of reaction was about 1,350°C. The aim was to produce cement with a maximum possible content of iron.
- Other papers read at the conference concerned the of sulfuric acid on the basis of magnesium sulfate salts (MgSO4). Dr Schwa m) reported on technical roasting of raw materials containing mag te in the fluidized bed (Fliessbett), in the eddying coat bed (Wirbelsenichtbett), and in the free fluid bed (Schwebebett). Prof Dr Herbert Staude discussed thermo-dynamic problems and the reactions of solid bodies in high temperatures. In connection with the production of SO2 gases, he spoke on disintegration temperatures of magnesium sulfate and calcium sulfate and the determination of their specific heats up to 1,200 C. An assistant to Professor Arthur Simon of the Dresden Institute of Technology, who at present does research work on the Ramann spectroscopy of hydrogen sulfates, reported on experiments with magnesium sulfates. Among others, 1:1 mixtures of magnesium sulfate and quartz were heated up to 950°C and it was found that up to 35 percent of the two components entered into reaction with each other when a high amount of activating agents (Mineralisatoren) were added. Dr Heide (fnu) of the VEB "Wilhelm Pleck" Kunstfaserwerk (synthetic fibre plant) at Schwarza reported on the reclaiming of sodium sulfate in the form of thenardite (NaSO4) (sic) from the spinning bath for rayon and staple fibres. For the preparation of the spinning bath 100 to 130 grs of sulfuric acid, 350 grs of sodium sulfate and 8 to 10 grs of zinc sulfate were added per liter. In 1953, about 70 tons of thenardite were produced daily at Schwarza.
- 6. Dr Robert Griesbach spoke on experiments made at VEB Farbenfabrik Wolfen for the production of alumina (Al203) from clay on the basis of a combined process. In 1953, a sum of 320,000 eastmarks was spent on this research order. Griesbach reported that normal calcined clays were processed with sulfuric acid or heated after coke and calcium sulfate had been added. As a result, aluminum sulfate was obtained, or the calcined clays were leached with a soda solution which then yielded alumina. The allocation of 2.2 million eastmarks had been requested for the erection of a factory designed to produce alumina on the basis of the process developed at Wolfen. Other research orders in the field of alumina briefly mentioned at the conference included the breaking-up of clays by hydrochloric acid, a project for which 750,000 eastmarks

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had been invested; the processing of clays rich in silica acid for which 600,000 eastmarks had been invested; the manufacture of topascryolite (Al<sub>2</sub>F<sub>2</sub>oSiO<sub>4</sub>) to be used for the production of alumina at Ruedersdorf; the reduction of aluminum chloride with water; and the thermic production of aluminum at VEB chemiewerk

- 7. Dr Wehner (fmu) of the VEB Elektrochemisches Kombinat at Bitterfeld read a long paper on the utilization of industrial salt waste solutions (Salz-Endlaugen), of which approximately 500,000 tons were produced in 1953. This output is expected
- 8.

waste solutions has alm is to be erected in the It is planned to process and water, sodium chloric ac and potassium chloride magnesium chloride in t KC1.6H2O) are produced acid. Through thermic t magnesium oxide and a v approximately 100 tons  Dr Arthur Lehmann, Chie (nitrogen plant) spoke of this research order. Dr a paper on the influence rare earths obtained fro allocated for this research	s by 1960. Basic research work on most been completed. A processing of vicinity of VEB Kaliwerk Bleichers these waste solutions which conside, potassium chloride, and magnetid. During the first stage of this are obtained in the form of salts, he form of bishoffite (MgCl <sub>2</sub> ·6H <sub>2</sub> O) by the further processing of these reatment by bishoffite and carnalitiery pure hydrochloric acid is obtained of magnesium exide could be obtain of the Test Laboratory at VEB Storn reactions between calcium exide yanimide. A sum of 230,000 eastman Hepke (fnu), chief of the phospho so of acids on exidizing compounds arch work. Dr Frick (fnu) of the Logect for which 30,000 eastmarks helpect for the process of the second for the second for the process of the second for the process of the second for the second for the process of the second for the seco	the utilization of these plant for these solutions rode in the eastern Harz Mts. tain mainly magnesium chloride sium sulfate, with process, sodium chloride and in the second stage and carnalite (MgCl <sub>2</sub> . salts with hydrochloric te a very pure alkali-free ined. It was expected that ed as a by-product daily.  ickstoffwerk Piestoritz, ammonia, and coal for the ks had been allocated for rus plant at Piesteritz read and the concentration of 5,000 eastmarks had been
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